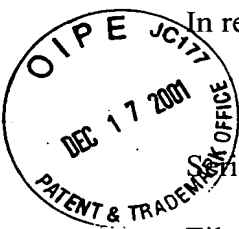


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12-2-9-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re the Application of:

Michio YAMAJI, et al.

Serial Number: 09/437,296

Filed: November 9, 1999

For: FLUID COUPLING

RECEIVED
DEC 21 2001
GROUP 3600

Group Art Unit: 3629

Examiner: A. Dunwoody

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 17, 2001

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 17, 2001, extended to December 17, 2001 by the enclosed One Month Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 22, has been replaced with the following, rewritten paragraph:

--FIGS. 1(a) and 1(b) include sectional views showing a fluid coupling
embodying the invention;--

A.

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 24, has been replaced with the following, rewritten paragraph:

--FIGS. 2(a) and 2(b) include sectional views showing a fluid coupling for
comparison;--

A2